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Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners
Professional Counselor Examiners Committee
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PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE **PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES** **JUNE 4, 2015**

I. CALL TO ORDER

This regularly scheduled meeting of the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee was called to order on June 4, 2015 at 9:42 a.m. in the Hudson Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

William Green, Committee Chair
Ketrin Saud Maxwell, Committee Vice-Chair
Dana Kaspereen, Committee Member
W. Michael Shea, Committee Member
Diane Licht, Committee Member
Peter Economou, Committee Member

Also Present:

Shirley Dickstein, Deputy Attorney General
Jodi Krugman, Deputy Attorney General (for a portion of meeting)
Milagros B. Collazo, Executive Director
Rachel Glasgow, Regulatory Analyst
Celeste Paige, Administrative Staff
ToniAnn Petrella-Diaz, Government Rep

Committee Chair, William Green announced the presence of a quorum and read the Sunshine Law:

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing to the Office of the Secretary of State, The Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Bergen Record and The Courier Post.

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion by made by Dana Kaspereen, and seconded by W. Michael Shea, the Committee voted to approve the May 7, 2015 minutes as amended. Voting in favor: all.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following members of the public were present but did not comment:

Lauren Fallas, Caldwell University

Ashley Shanahan, Caldwell University

Lisa Thomas, BGSP - N.J. - Psychoanalytical Program

Leanna Waller, Caldwell University

Alexandria Lanzel, Caldwell University

V. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

- Executive Director Collazo announced the new Acting Deputy Director Howard Pine, replacing Kim Ringler, who retired.
- Executive Director Collazo presented the Licensing Activity Report for Committee review. There are currently 4,976 total active licenses (Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Associate Counselors and Licensed Rehabilitation Counselors.) Currently there are 1,441 applications and 42 reinstatements pending.

* Pending applications include applications pending final Committee review/ approval, incomplete applications, applications waiting on exam results, and applications that have been abandoned.

VI. ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Executive Director announced the annual Elections of Officers pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:8B-37.4.

Upon nomination made by W. Michael Shea, and seconded by Dana Kaspereen, the Committee nominated William Green for Committee Chair. Voting in favor: all.

Upon nomination made by Dana Kaspereen, and seconded by Diane Licht, the Committee nominated Ketrin Saud Maxwell for Committee Vice-Chair. Voting in favor: all.

VII. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

Senate Bill 2898

The Committee reviewed Senate Bill 2898, which seeks to authorize medical marijuana for qualifying patients with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Upon motion made by Peter Economou, and seconded by W. Michael Shea, the Committee voted to support the bill. Voting in favor: all.

Assembly Bill 3435

The Committee reviewed Assembly Bill 3435, “Boys & Girls Clubs Keystone Law” which seeks to permit minors to give consent for behavioral health care.

Upon motion made by Ketrin Saud Maxwell, and seconded by Dana Kaspereen, the Committee voted to not support the bill because it will create more problems than it is trying to solve from a family systems and psychological perspective, causing ethical dilemmas in the family counselor/ client relationship. There is no clarity of who benefits from the bill. Minors are not developmentally capable of making these decisions, putting a huge amount of responsibility on a child to choose the right counselor and make other decisions concerning their mental health care.

*Voting in favor: Ketrin Saud Maxwell, Dana Kaspereen, William Green, Diane Licht.
Opposed: Peter Economou. Abstention: W. Michael Shea. Motion passes.*

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

No items to report.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

No items to report.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee reviewed the news article “New Jersey Bill Cuts Parents Out of Mental Health Treatment Decisions.”

The Committee accepted this as informational.

XI. NEW JERSEY COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

No items to report.

XII. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Sub-Committee completed its initial review for Sunset in 2016. Draft will be presented for Committee review at a later date.

XIII. DISCIPLINE ORDERS

1. Thomas J. Flaherty

DAG Krugman was acting counsel, as DAG Dickstein was the prosecutor for this case.

Upon motion made by Ketrin Saud Maxwell, and seconded by W. Michael Shea, the Committee voted that Mr. Flaherty’s personal narrative is not adequate and did not provide sufficient information to the Committee, therefore the Committee voted to finalize the Provisional Order of Discipline (POD), without modification, and move forward as issued. Voting in favor: all.

2. Glenn Siegel

DAG Krugman was acting counsel, as DAG Dickstein was the prosecutor for this case.

Upon motion made by W. Michael Shea, and seconded by Ketrin Saud Maxwell, the Committee voted to finalize the POD with the modification that Mr. Siegel’s license not be suspended and only the penalty be imposed. Voting in favor: all.

XIV. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for **July 16, 2015**

Meeting Dates for 2015

July 16, 2015

August - *canceled*

September 3, 2015

October 1, 2015

November 5, 2015

December 3, 2015

XV. APPLICATION REVIEW:

National Counselor Examination (NCE) approval

Christopher Andrews	Jodetta Bunyon
Michelle Corsini	Jack Cottom
Diana Hernandez	Arthur Howard
Ashley Jacobs	Colleen Murphy
Jennifer Santos	Brad Skokowski
Gerla Sterling	Costenah Ward

Licensed Associate Counselor (LAC) approval

Elizabeth Allen	Beth Blackman
Arielle Feldman	Danielle Gaspar
Charles Gravengood	Nicole Jennings
Nicole Jennings	Andrea Jordan-Lemma
Maria LaRose	Jessica McMahon
Miguel Parziale	Kandys Randolph
Robert Reilly	Stephanie Jankowitz
Kadiatu Tarawalie	Jillian Vanderberg

Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) approval

Allison Belkin	Angela Fahmy
Samantha Landi	Michele Levin
Julie Reardon	Danielle Wood

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Peter Economou, and seconded by Dana Kaspereen, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session at 11:00 a.m. for review of applications for licensure, plans of supervision, consumer complaints and other pending disciplinary and confidential matters. Voting in favor: all.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Peter Economou, and seconded by Diane Licht, the Committee adjourned the public meeting at 2:37. Voting in favor: all.

